



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 974-1465 or (213) 974-1431
Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montañó

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **JANUARY 23, 2008**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montañó led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montañó
Vice Chair Helen H. Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Rita Hall
Carl E. Moore

Excused Absence

John A. Hammargren

Staff

Janice A. Davis, Commission Services Staff
Garen Khachian, Commission Services Staff
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff

APPROVAL OF JANUARY 16, 2008 MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Cannella, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and unanimously carried, the minutes of January 16, 2008 were approved, with the following changes:

- On page 2, paragraph 4, after letter to add: "*Sheriff Leroy Baca commending*" after Captain Robert J. Olmstead delete: "*commending him*"...

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montaña reported:

- "Shooting For The Academic Stars", U.S. News & World Report, December 10, 2007, regarding TJ High School in Virginia, one of the best high schools in America.
- On January 6-8, 2008, Chair Montaña attended the California Association of Human Relations Organizations (CAHRO) Conference, "From Conflict To Community: California's Challenge", at the Embassy Suites Hotel Sheraton in Sacramento.
- Chair Montaña and Commissioner Moore will be attending services for the "Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Day", scheduled February 17, 2008 at the West Angeles Cathedral, 3600 Crenshaw Blvd, Los Angeles, sponsored by The West Counseling Center.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$807.23.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Janice Davis, Staff, Commission Services gave the following report:

- The Board of Supervisors approved the Los Angeles County Food Policy Nutrition Guidelines "Smart Snackers". Food and beverages purchased with County Funds at County-sponsored meetings and events must follow the new guidelines.
- A letter was received from the Pico Rivera Sheriff's Station informing the Commission that the jail improvements have been shared with all Sheriff's Stations.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY CHILD ABUSE & NEGLECT PROTOCOL DVD

The Commission watched the "Child Abuse & Neglect Protocol Movie", provided by Commissioner Moore, and found the program very informative.

REVISED SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION INSPECTION SITE BOOK

The revised "Group Home Inspection Site Book" was distributed to the Commission.

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION 2007 REPORT OF INSPECTIONS

The "Sybil Brand Commission 2007 Report of Inspections" was distributed to the Commission.

REPORTING GUIDELINES FOR DEPARTMENT REPRESENTATIVES

“The Reporting Guidelines For Department Representatives” form was discussed and the Commission requested changes. The draft will be presented at the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

There were none.

FACILITY/GROUP HOME INSPECTION REPORTS FROM JANUARY 16, 2008 TO JANUARY 22, 2008

Hillsides Home for Children – 30, #5 – Commissioner Stathatos

The facility was visited on January 17, 2008, and found to be in excellent condition.

Deliaann Lucile Corporation – 15, #4 – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on January 17, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Area of Concern: Upstairs banister needs repair.

Vista Del Mar – 65, #2 – Commissioners Hall, Moore and Stathatos

The facility was visited on January 22, 2008, and found to be in outstanding condition.

Heritage Group Homes– 29, #4 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaño

The facility was visited on January 22, 2008, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Leak under the sink needs to be repaired; dresser drawer needs to be fixed; van needs two new tires.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were none.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Elizabeth Howard, from the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) gave the following report:

- The scorecards cover the core child welfare domains of Child Safety, Permanency and Child Well-Being.
- DCFS has youths placed in 99 of 120 Group Homes, the rest contain Probation Children.
- Performance scorecards were received at all 99 DCFS Group Homes.
- The scorecards included nine performance measures for 2006.

- The Federal standard set in 2000 was “Children Will Be Free from Abuse and Neglect”. DCFS has a 99.67% success rate. The overall 2006 performance measure was 98.65%. Seventy-five of the 99 Group Homes met or exceeded the Federal Standard by scoring 100% on this measure.
- Agencies that serve fewer than 307 children in a year will fail to meet the performance standard if they have even one incident of abuse or neglect. None of the 99 DCFS Group Homes served more than 307 children in 2006.
- Superintendents sent letters to school administrators describing the requirements of AB 490 which facilitates the timely school enrollment of foster children.
- The Revenue Enhancement Division within DCFS is responsible for processing payments to the Foster Homes and Group Homes.
- Childnet Youth & Family Services, Family Solutions and Lark Group Homes have voluntarily closed.
- The reported number of physical abuse cases was 7,949 for the period of 10/1/07 to 12/31/07.
- The number of sexual abuse cases was 2,609 for the period of 10/1/07 to 12/31/07.
- The number of runaways for “Group Homes Only” was 1,228 for the period of 10/1/07 to 1/22/08.
- General neglect complaints were 10,862.
- Abby’s Adolescent Development Centers and M and R Group Homes are on the “Do Not Refer” list.
- Both Jay Cee Dee Group Homes are closed.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 12:48 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice A. Davis
Commission Services Division